<u>**Amendments to the Claims:**</u>

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

<u>**Listing of Claims:**</u>

Claims 1-16 (cancelled).

Claim 17 (currently amended): A computer based system which enables a party and counterparty to be efficiently matched, comprising:

a first computer terminal into which the party inputs details of a potential first financial transaction <u>to buy an amount of a first currency using a second currency</u>,

a second computer terminal into which the counterparty inputs details of a potential second financial transaction <u>to sell an amount of that first currency and to receive the second currency or another currency</u>,

a computer network connecting the first and second terminals;

characterised in there being:

(a)   a computer program that allocates to each currency a unique identifier such that each possible combination of currencies to be bought and sold by parties and counterparties is uniquely identifiable by a combination identifier <u>that is a single binary number</u> derived from the unique identifiers of each currency [[on]] <u>of</u> the combination; and

(b)   a computer program arranged to determine, prior to the first and second transactions occurring, a net payment position if <u>either</u> the first and second transactions were to occur <u>only in part</u> and to complete each transaction on the basis of the net payment position.

Claim 18 (original): The computer based system as claimed in Clam 1 wherein there are several party/counterparty pairs in a connected series of financial transactions such that only by combining all of the connected transactions are all of the parties and counterparties satisfied in whole or part.

Claim 19 (original): A computer based system as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the Internet comprises some of the network connecting the first and second terminals.

Claim 20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (original): The computer based system as claimed in Claim 17 wherein the program is designed to identify and complete transactions in first in – first out (FIFO) order limited only by a set of user defined parameters and transaction system rules.

Claim 22 (cancelled).

Claim 23 (previously presented): The computer based system of Claim 17 in which each unique identifier is an assignment value number in the form 10^N, with N being different for each currency.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The computer based system of Claim 23 in which the assignment value combination identifier for a given combination of currencies is calculated by adding the unique identifiers for each currency in that combination.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The computer based system of Claim 17 in which a match between a combination of currencies to be bought and a combination of currencies to be sold is identified by a program able to calculate combination identifiers for all possible combinations to be bought and to be sold and to identify a match where a combination identifier for a combination to be sold equals a combination identifier for a combination to be bought.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The computer based system of Claim 25 in which the amount of currency available for matching in any given combination is determined by a calculation which involves converting the currencies in that combination to a base currency.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A method of completing a foreign exchange transaction for a party, comprising the steps of:

        (a)   the party defining a foreign exchange requirement, relating to <u>buying an amount of a first currency using a second currency</u> the ~~sale or disposal of different kinds of currencies~~ using a web browser;

        (b)   sending the requirement via the Internet to a server; and

        (c)   processing that requirement by identifying one or more matching counterparties <u>wishing to sell an amount of that first currency and to receive the second currency or another currency</u> using (i) a computer program that allocates to each of the

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different kinds of currencies a unique identifier such that each possible combination of kinds of foreign exchange to be bought and sold is uniquely identifiable by a combination identifier derived from the unique identifiers and (ii) a computer program arranged to determine prior to the transaction occurring a net payment position between the party and the or each counterparty if <u>either</u> the first and second transactions were to occur <u>only in part</u> and to subsequently complete the transaction between the party and the or each counterparty on the basis of the net payment position.

Claim 28 (original): The method of completing a foreign exchange transaction as claimed in Claim 27 in which a computer based system as claimed in Claim is used.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A server programmed to process a foreign exchange transaction between a party and a counterparty, the transaction relating to different kinds of currencies, in which the server is programmed to (a) allocate to each of the different kinds of currency a unique identifier such that each possible combination of currencies to be bought and sold by parties and counterparties is uniquely identifiable by a combination identifier derived from the unique identifiers and (b) to determine, prior to the transaction occurring, a net payment position between the party and a counterparty if the transaction were to occur <u>only in part</u> and to complete the transaction between the party and the counterparty on the basis of the net payment position.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The server of Claim 29 forming part of a computer based system.

Claim 31 (original): A computer terminal acting as a client, in which the client accepts from a party a foreign exchange requirement and sends that requirement to a server as defined in Claim 30.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A method of obtaining foreign exchange comprising the following steps:

      (a) a party <u>wishing</u> <u>to buy an amount of a first currency using a second</u> <u>currency,</u>~~requiring foreign exchange~~ defines <u>that</u> a foreign exchange requirement using a web browser, ~~eh requirement defining one kind of currency to be bought and another to be sold~~;

      <u>(b)</u>   <u>a counterparty wishing to sell an amount of that first currency and to receive</u> <u>the second currency or another currency defines that</u> a <u>foreign exchange requirement using a</u> <u>web browser,</u>

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([[b]] c)   the party sends the requirement via the Internet to a remote computer which processes or enables the processing of that requirement using a computer program arranged to (i) allocate to each of the different kinds of currencies ~~foreign exchange~~ a unique identifier such that each possible combination of kinds of currency ~~foreign exchange~~ to be bought and sold is uniquely identifiable by a combination identifier derived from the unique identifiers and (ii) to determine, prior to the foreign exchange occurring a net payment position if either the first and second transactions were to occur only in part ~~between the party and a counterparty~~ and subsequently to complete the foreign exchange transaction between the party and the counterparty on the basis of the net payment position; and

([[c]]d) the party receives foreign exchange in satisfaction of its requirement.

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